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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 230009-3 25X1

TOPIC Koethen Airfield 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 2 April 1952 DATE PREPARED 2 April 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE 25X1

1. Between 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 4 March 1952, there was local flying by swept-back jet fighters at Koethen airfield. Individual single-engine, low-wing monoplanes with radial engines flew from 4 to 5 p.m. Between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., on 5 March, there was intensive local flying by swept-back jet fighters with extended landing gears. On 6 March, individual swept-back jet fighters practiced flying between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and flying in groups of two between 2 and 4 p.m. On 7 March, there was intensive flying from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and local flying by aircraft with extended landing gear from 3 to 4 p.m.

2. Between 10:15 a.m. and 12:33 p.m. on 8 March, source observed the field in sunny weather. At 10:20 a.m., Hangars 1 and 2 were closed. A railroad tank car was at the second fuel dump. The same crates as previously observed were in the barracks yard. Four aircraft crates were observed for the first time in front of Hangar 1. * At 10:30 a.m., 9 swept-back jet fighters were near Hangar 3, and 5 planes of the same type were at the take-off point. At 11:10 a.m., 11 swept-back jet fighters were near Hangar 3 and 5 other planes were at the take-off point. At 11:42 a.m. the swept-back jet fighters observed included 15 at Hangar 3, 3 at Hangar 2, and 9 at the take-off point. At 12:06 p.m., two swept-back jet fighters were parked at Hangar 2. From this hangar the following swept-back jet fighters continuously taxied to the take-off point and took off:

Time	Number of Planes
10:33 a.m.	2
10:40 a.m.	2
11:56 a.m.	1
11:57 a.m.	1
12:04 p.m.	2
12:06 p.m.	1
12:15 p.m.	1
12:17 p.m.	1
12:20 p.m.	2
12:21 p.m.	1
12:25 p.m.	1
12:26 p.m.	1
12:33 p.m.	1

[Redacted]

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No Change in Class. 25X1

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The following landings were made by swept-back jet fighters:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Number of Planes</u>
10:34 a.m.	1
11:06 a.m.	1
11:15 a.m.	2
12:13 p.m.	1
12:30 p.m.	2
12:31 p.m.	1

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[Redacted]

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* [Redacted] Comment. The observed aircraft crates confirm previous reports according to which two units in Koethen were continuously being supplied with crates containing new MiG-15s. [Redacted]

Since 19 January 1952, 78 jet fighter crates, including 50 addressed to the APN of an unidentified unit, have been shipped to Koethen. According to several statements some of which are definitely reliable, the unit concerned was a ground attack unit equipped with MiG-15s. Since it was repeatedly observed that trucks with crews from a ground attack regiment shuttled between Dessau and Koethen it is possible that a jet aircraft training center for crews of ground attack planes is located in Koethen. It is not believed that a distribution point for jet fighters is referred to since all the other fighter units of the Southern Ftr Div are supplied with crates MiG-15s directly from the U.S.S.R. [Redacted]

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After the arrival of 23 jet fighter crates [Redacted] and 12 March, it is believed that the new fighter regiment in Koethen has [Redacted]

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** [Redacted] Comment. The report agrees with other reports that the unit is equipped with MiG-15s in Koethen. So far it has not been possible to distinguish the two units at the field. The reported hangar sketch. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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